

RESOURCE OVERVIEW

Background

The Nunn-Cohen Amendment to the legislation that created USSOCOM gave its commander in chief (USCINCSOC) direct control over the majority of the fiscal resources necessary to pay, train, equip, and deploy SOF through the establishment of a separate major force program (MFP), MFP-11. USCINCSOC's control of SOF fiscal resources provides several significant benefits. First, SOF funding may now be debated solely on its own merits and not in relationship to the military departments' much larger programs. Second, a separate MFP for SOF also ensures visibility of the SOF program by the Department of Defense (DoD) and the Congress. Third, informed decisions are based on analyses of comprehensive, joint SOF data that balance the competing needs of all SOF instead of submitting separate justifications individually to each military department.

A Powerful Investment

Although SOF resources constitute a small portion of the overall defense budget, direct management of SOF through MFP-11 is an extremely important means of ensuring that our nation's SOF are prepared to meet a myriad of operational requirements. At present, SOF stand ready to perform a host of missions spanning the entire spectrum of conflict. By dedicating approximately 46,000 personnel and 1.3 percent of the defense budget to MFP-11, decisionmakers have provided the United States with a ready, highly capable and flexible joint SOF



Mark V craft practices high-speed operations.

The FY 2001 president's budget request enables USSOCOM to support national interests worldwide. All DoD components contribute to meeting these requirements, but SOF are the single, near-term, joint force that can immediately provide an acceptable means of access, by regionally-attuned forces, across the complete spectrum of military operations. SOF provide an array of options to the NCA which, despite a relatively static funding profile, are increasingly being exercised.

A Disciplined Fiscal Process

The USSOCOM Strategic Planning Process drives decisionmaking related to resourcing, acquisition, sustainment, and modernization. It is a continuous process with a biennial cycle that facilitates the shaping of the strategic direction of SOF.

The USSOCOM Strategic Planning Process has four phases: guidance development, capability assessment, program assessment, and integration/resourcing. These phases contain activity related to the creation of guidance, the assessment of capabilities, and the prioritization of an integrated capabilities list to guide Program Objective Memorandum (POM) development. USSOCOM service component staff, theater SOC, and OASD(SO/LIC) participation is significant during all phases of the process. They serve as members of an integrated concept team and provide subject matter expert inputs prior to the completion of each phase of the process. Additionally, component commander participation, as members of the USSOCOM Board of Directors, which is co-chaired by the USCINCSOC and the ASD(SO/LIC), occurs throughout the process.

The starting point for the biennial cycle may be driven by actual or forecasted changes in the planning environment or by DoD or USCINCSOC directive. The cycle ends with the approval of the next POM that includes the approved resource-constrained listing of capability-based programs. The POM serves as the basis for the development of the annual president's budget submission.

The USSOCOM Strategic Planning Process has been designed to provide a list of capability-based programs, over a range of constraints, that allows POM decisionmakers to satisfy SOF mission needs and proactively guide development, acquisition, and employment of SOF resources in the future.

Military Department Support to SOF

The military departments also have a significant role in the resourcing of SOF. Title 10, Chapter 6, United States Code (U.S.C.), defines and apportions responsibilities between the military departments and the combatant commands, including

USSOCOM. Title 10, U.S.C. Section 165, charges the military departments with the responsibility for providing administration and support for forces assigned by the respective military departments to the combatant commands, subject to the authority of the respective CINCs.

DoD Directive 5100.1, "Functions of the Department of Defense and Its Major Components," requires the military departments to develop, garrison, supply, equip, and maintain bases and other installations, including lines of communications, and to provide administrative and logistics support for all forces and bases, unless otherwise directed by the Secretary of Defense. DoD Directive 5100.3, "Support of the Headquarters of Unified, Specified, and Subordinate Joint Commands," makes clear this broad support responsibility also extends to USSOCOM and its subordinate headquarters.

Additional DoD guidance further defines military department support responsibilities. MFP-11-related programs funded in the appropriations accounts of the military departments (SOF Support Programs), but not identified as MFP-11, will consist of programs that support other users in addition to SOF. Programs in this category, such as base operating support, are programmed, budgeted, and executed by the military departments with input from USCINCSOC.

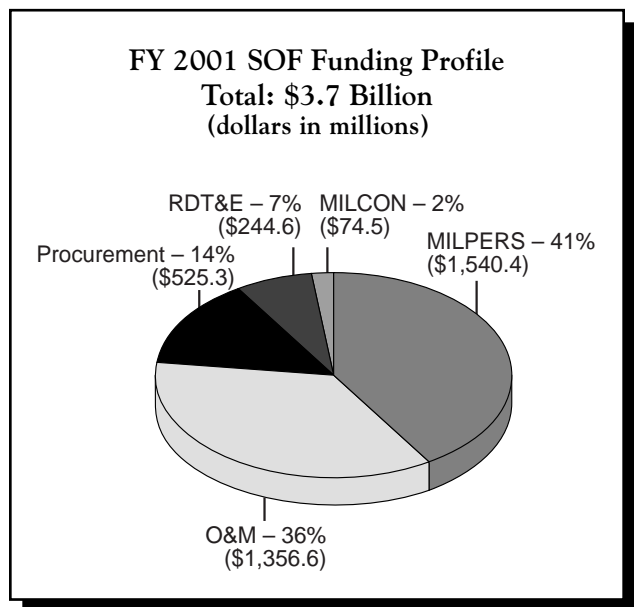


AFSOC's newest aircraft, the AC-130U gunship, combines precision fire support with unmatched, all-weather sensor systems.

SOF Funding Profile

The SOF budget request for FY 2001 is approximately \$3.7 billion, including military pay and allowances. The MFP-11 budget supports the SOF primary mission — maintaining the readiness and sustainability of current forces to support the geographic commanders in chief, U.S. ambassadors and their country teams, and other government agencies.

The following appropriation display of the FY 2001 president's budget for MFP-11 illustrates the SOF funding profile. Detailed budget data are contained in Appendix D.



Military Personnel (MILPERS) includes the basic salaries for all active and reserve component (RC) military personnel assigned to USSOCOM, as well as the RC military pay necessary for additional schools and training days necessary for RC SOF. SOF manpower data are displayed in Appendix D (Table D-2).

Operation and Maintenance (O&M) is the heart of maintaining SOF operational readiness. O&M includes: civilian pay; services for maintenance of equipment, real property, and facilities; fuel;

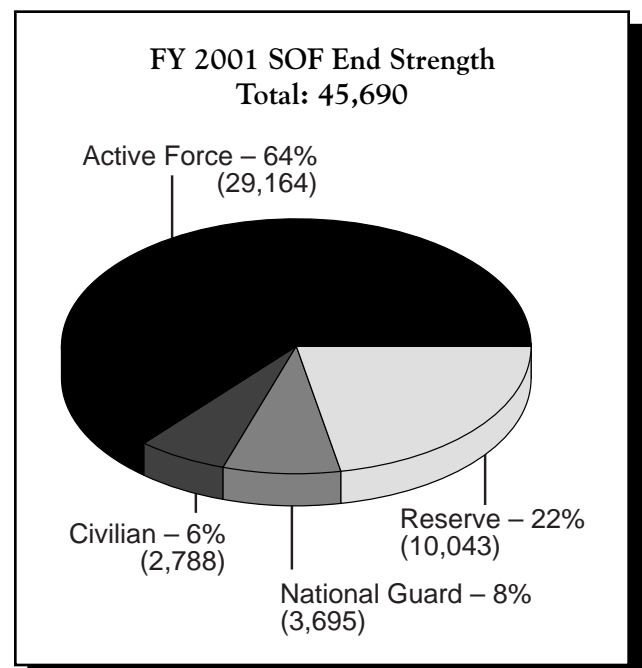
consumable supplies; spares; and repair parts for weapons and equipment. Additional information is contained in Appendix D (Table D-3).

Procurement provides vital modernization and recapitalization in areas such as mobility, weapons and munitions, communications, and intelligence equipment. Detailed information is provided in Appendix D (Table D-4).

Research, Development, Training, and Evaluation (RDT&E) is a significant request in each budget cycle, since technological advances will continue to provide critical advantages for special operations. Many of the benefits of RDT&E efforts will also accrue to conventional forces. RDT&E funding is discussed in greater detail in Appendix D (Table D-10).

Military Construction (MILCON) allows USSOCOM to provide unique facilities necessary for the training, housing, or deployment of SOF. MILCON projects are displayed in Appendix D (Table D-12).

Manpower



As the chart portrays, the SOF total end strength for FY 2001 is about 46,000 with approximately one-third of their military personnel in reserve component units. Although the active force is largely responsible for meeting the demands of regional crises and conflicts and providing overseas presence, USSOCOM relies on reserve component units to augment and reinforce the active force. U.S. Army Reserve SOF personnel, for example, provide a variety of essential skills, particularly in the areas of CA and PSYOP. Additionally, about 2,800 civilians join SOF active and reserve military personnel as partners in defense. Detailed information regarding SOF end strength is depicted in Appendix D (Table D-2).

Conclusion

A dynamic and uncertain security environment has drastically increased the theater requirements for SOF. Special operations forces provide critical capabilities needed to meet future national security demands. Adequate funding is essential if SOF are to maintain their current capability and prepare to meet the future's challenges.



A SEAL conducts training using a tracking device to send both mission status and precise longitude and latitude.